

Sitrep 17 October 1983

Poland: Status of Debt Rescheduling

Warsaw last week hosted a team of representatives of Western
government creditors and met with banks to work out the last
details of the agreement reached in August to reschedule debt due
to banks this year. Polish authorities met with a task force of
the Paris Club of government creditors, the first such meeting
since the imposition of martial law. The Poles did not present a
formal request,
there is no further room to cut imports and that
Poland will need \$6 - 8 billion in new credits over the next
three years. Warsaw will not accept a rescheduling
package that does not include new credits and IMF membership.
The task force requested additional information from the
Poles and plans to give its findings to the Paris Club on 26
October. The Club is to decide then whether to move beyond its
July consensus "in principle" to open talks.
the agreement between Poland and
Western banks will be signed in Luxembourg on 3 or 4 November.
Final details were hammered out last week in Vienna, reaffirming
the terms agreed on in August. formal talks on
rescheduling obligations for 1984 could begin immediately after
signing.
While most Western governments want to begin negotiations
soon, rescheduling talks are likely to proceed slowly. Warsaw's
EURM 13-10250 C.

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initial demands for debt relief, new credits, and IMF membership	
are certain to be more than the creditors will accept. Moreover,	
the expected signing next month of the agreement rescheduling	
bank debts for 1983and the push for an early agreement on debts	
for 1984will further complicate efforts of the Paris Club	
participants to receive payments.	25 X 1
	25X ⁻

Hungary: According to press reports, Hungary completed	
repayment of all outstanding obligations to the BIS with a final	
payment of \$100 million at the end of June. The information was	
made available in a quarterly report of the Swiss National Bank.	25X1
	23 X I
Both the Hungarian and Western press reported the 25	
September signing of a \$200 million Eurodollar loan to the	
National Bank of Hungary. European, Middle Eastern, and Japanese	
banks, together with the World Bank, provided the money to	
supplement two previously awarded World Bank project loans for	
agricultural mechanization, grain storage facilities, and energy	
conservation.	25 X 1
	25 X 1
	25 X ′
	237
	25%
	258
	238

Yugoslavia

According to press reports, 542 banks signed formal	
commitment notices on 7 October which refinance \$1.9 billion in	
maturing loans and provide \$600 million in new credits to	
Yugoslavia. The banks initially had estimated they would have to	
refinance some \$3.4 billion, but final accounting of claims on	
Yugoslavia showed that only \$1.9 billion fell under the terms of	
the private debt refinancing agreement. Signing of the agreement	
freed up more IMF money for Yugoslavia; \$1.06 million this month	
and \$137 million in November.	25X1
IMF disbursements will pay off part of the \$500 million in short-	
term bridge loans obtained from the BIS.	25X1
	25X1
The West Germans encouraged Yugoslavia to consider	25X1
rescheduling its debt. Yugoslav authorities resist a formal	
rescheduling, arguing that their prestige and ability to govern	
effectively would be undermined.	25X ²

Most Western banks and government do not wish to provide debt relief for 1984 by negotiating another "Friends of Yugoslavia" package, preferring instead a formal rescheduling of the debt. The banks in particular prefer a rescheduling because this year's rescue effort did not produce an equal burdensharing between private and official creditors. The French, British, German, and other governments, as well as exposed Western banks,

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foresee Yugoslav financial shortfalls for several years to come.	25X1
	25X1